

Application No.: 10/695,297
Response to Office Action of February 9, 2007
Attorney Docket: MCROD-002CB

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Amendments to the Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A dye for use in detecting the presence of two dissimilar first and second ligands in a liquid sample suspected of containing one or both of said ligands via a competitive immunoassay utilizing receptors specific for said first and second ligands comprising:
 - a) a particulate dye component;
 - b) a first ligand analog covalently bound to a protein; and
 - c) a second ligand analog covalently bound to a protein, wherein said second ligand analog is dissimilar to the first ligand analog;
 - d) wherein said first ligand analog and covalently bound protein and said second ligand analog and covalently bound protein are protein complexes absorbed upon said particulate dye; and
 - e) [[c]] wherein said particulate dye with both said first and second said ligand analogs ~~protein complexes~~ absorbed thereon ~~are~~ is operative to bind with receptors for both said first and second ligands.
2. (Original) The dye of Claim 1 wherein said particulate dye comprises colloidal gold granules.
3. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 1 wherein ~~the ligand analogs comprise molecules of the ligands to be detected themselves~~ ~~said first ligand analog of said first ligand analog protein complex comprises a molecule of morphine-3-beta-D-glucuronide.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 3 [[1]] wherein ~~said first ligand analog comprises a molecule of morphine-3-beta-D-glucuronide~~ ~~second ligand analog of said second ligand analog protein complex comprises a molecule of amphetamine.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 3 [[1]] wherein ~~said second ligand analog comprises a molecule of amphetamine~~ particulate dye component comprises a detectable moiety selected from the group consisting of a radioactive compound, a fluorescent compound, an enzymatic compound or particulate metal.
6. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 1 ~~wherein said particulate dye component comprises a detectable moiety selected from the group consisting of a radioactive compound,~~

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~~a fluorescent compound, an enzymatic compound or particulate metal further comprising a third ligand analog protein complex absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said third ligand analog protein complex being further operative to bind with receptor for said third ligand.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 1 [[6]] further comprising a third ligand analog covalently bound to a protein absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said third ligand analog being further operative to bind with a receptor for said third ligand further comprising a fourth ligand analog protein complex absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said fourth ligand analog protein complex being further operative to bind with receptor for said fourth ligand.

8. (Currently Amended) The dye of Claim 7 further comprising a fourth ligand analog covalently bound to a protein absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said fourth ligand analog being further operative to bind with a receptor for said fourth ligand fifth ligand analog protein complex absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said fifth ligand analog protein complex being further operative to bind with receptor for said fifth ligand.

9. (New) The dye of Claim 8 further comprising a fifth ligand analog covalently bound to a protein absorbed upon said particulate dye, said particulate dye with said fifth ligand analog being further operative to bind with a receptor for said fifth ligand.

10. (New) The dye of Claim 1 wherein said protein comprises bovine serum albumin.